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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/821,736

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Hisashi Takeuchi

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EXAMINER

BEAUCHAINE, MARK J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3653

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DELIVERY MODE

12/17/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/821,736	Applicant(s) TAKEUCHI ET AL.	
	Examiner MARK J. BEAUCHAINE	Art Unit 3653	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 September 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 April 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 3-7 and 9-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Patent Application Publication Number US 2004.0084521 A1 by Nagayoshi et al ("Nagayoshi") in view of Patent Number 4,524,268 by Fukatsu ("Fukatsu") in view of Patent Number US 6,811,016 B2 by Blair ("Blair"). The printed note deposit machine disclosed by Nagayoshi comprises user recognition unit 203 identifying a user with an authenticated person, inlet unit 101 serving as a receiving teller in which printed notes are deposited, dispensing unit 140 receiving printed notes deposited in the inlet unit to dispense then in sequence, and identifying unit 103 classifying the dispensed printed notes into four categories of authenticated notes, counterfeit notes, unidentifiable notes and rejected notes (see para. 0028, lines 6-10 and para. 0038, lines 5-22). Said identifying unit includes a serial number reader unit to read a serial number unique to each of the printed notes (see para. 0029, lines 7-11), and memory unit 131/132 which stores printed note information obtained by a plurality of sensors (see step 702 of Figure 8) from the printed notes immediately after deposit

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and classifies the printed note information. Said memory unit stores transaction data which is a combination of user information from a user recognition unit (see para. 0045, lines 1-13), and printed note information from the identifying unit.

Nagayoshi further discloses a single temporary money holder 110 temporarily storing therein the printed notes identified and classified in the identifying unit as authenticated notes (see para. 0028, line 6 through para. 0029, line 6). Still further, Nagayoshi discloses all other printed notes classified as rejected notes (spoiled notes) as being segregated from said temporarily stored printed notes in cash box 123 (see Figure 1). Said machine further comprises plurality of storage cells 120, 121 and 122 and rejection unit 101 respectively for storing said printed notes which have been temporarily stored in the temporary money holder, and rejection unit 101 for accumulating the printed notes identified and classified as rejected notes by the identifying unit for return to a user (see para. 0029, lines 1-4). Still further, Nagayoshi discloses communication unit 503 (see Figure 12) externally transferring information from the identification unit.

Nagayoshi fails to disclose a temporary money holder temporarily storing unacceptable notes such as counterfeit and unidentified notes. Fukatsu teaches temporary money holder 21 that temporarily stores unacceptable notes determined to be counterfeit via identifying unit 20 for the purpose of restricting access to said unacceptable notes during a transaction process. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the unacceptable note temporary storage configuration of Fukatsu into the deposit machine

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of Nagayoshi for the purpose of restricting access to said unacceptable notes during a transaction process.

Nagayoshi fails to disclose said memory unit storing machine serial number information. Fukatsu teaches a machine identification formation being stored by memory 94 for the purpose of associating currency transaction information with a particular deposit machine. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the machine identification storage configuration of Fukatsu into the deposit machine of Nagayoshi for the purpose of associating currency transaction information with a particular deposit machine.

Nagayoshi fails to disclose a counterfeit-retaining predetermined storage cell. Blair teaches a printed note deposit machine comprising a predetermined storage cell that is assigned for storing counterfeit notes that remain captured for further examination (see column 3, lines 33-46) for the purpose of detecting whether a crime has been committed. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the storage cell configuration of Blair into the machine of Nagayoshi for the purpose of determining whether a crime has been committed.

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagayoshi in view of Fukatsu in view of Blair as applied to claim 7 above, and further in view of Patent Number US 6,874,682 B2 by Utz ("Utz"). Nagayoshi/Fukatsu/Blair fails to disclose a trace unit. Nagayoshi discloses plurality of printed note deposit machines

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201 that transmit transaction data via transmitting means 503 (see Figure 12). Utz teaches a database apparatus installed in a central office 76 (see Figure 2) and receiving transaction data from the memory of each of a plurality of printed note deposit machines to accumulate the transaction data (see column 20, line 59 through column 21, line 8), and a trace unit that matches transaction data accumulated in a data base apparatus with transaction data on detected notes (see column 21, lines 1-8 and column 23, lines 58-63) to track down a user of notes for the purpose of notifying said user of the existence of counterfeit notes. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the database apparatus/trace unit configuration of Utz into the deposit machine of Nagayoshi/Fukatzu/Blair for the purpose of notifying a user of the existence of counterfeit notes.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 3-13 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

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§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MARK J. BEAUCHAINE whose telephone number is (571)272-6934. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM through 5:00PM Mondays through Thursdays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick H. Mackey can be reached on (571)272-6916. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Patrick H. Mackey/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
Unit 3653

mjb